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UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF:

The Hartford Area)	
Hydrocarbon Plume Site)	
)	Proceeding Under Section
)	7003 of the Resource
Atlantic Richfield Company)	Conservation and
Equilon Enterprises, LLC)	Recovery Act, as amended
d/b/a Shell Oil Products US)	42 U.S.C. 6973 and The
PREMCOR Refining Group,)	Section 311 of the Clean
Inc.)	Water Act, 33 U.S.C.
)	1321
Respondents.)	

PUBLIC MEETING
March 25, 2004

ORIGINAL



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11 Equilon Enterprises, LLC) Recovery Act, as amended
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13 The PREMCOR Refining Group,) Section 311 of the Clean
14 Inc.) Water Act, 33 U.S.C.
15) 1321

16 Respondents.)

17 BE IT REMEMBERED, that the above-entitled matter
18 came on for Public Hearing at the Hartford Community
19 Center, Hartford, Illinois, on the 25th day of March,
20 2004, between the hours of eight o'clock in the
21 forenoon and ten o'clock in the evening of that day,
22 said hearing having been called by the United States
23 EPA, pursuant to the issuance of due notice to all
24 parties in interest; and the following is a transcript
25 of the record of proceedings had during the course of
said hearing.

-oOo-

A P P E A R A N C E S

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-oOo-

1 MR. JOYCE: My name is Mike Joyce. I'm the
2 Community Environment Coordinator for U.S.EPA Region 5
3 from Chicago. And I asked you folks to come out for a
4 couple of reasons.

5 One, we've announced and explained the agreement
6 we signed with three oil companies March 17 and also to
7 give you an update on all the technical work you
8 probably see going on all around town. There are
9 actually three or four or five different parallel
10 studies, pilot studies, testing, all sorts of things
11 going on here.

12 On scene coordinators who are actually project
13 managers for U.S.EPA, Steve Faryan and Kevin Turner,
14 are here to talk about that. Our attorney Brian
15 Barwick, the U.S.EPA attorney negotiated this agreement
16 with the oil companies. He's going to explain that
17 agreement to you and give you at least brief highlights
18 in layman's terms.

19 So why don't we start with Brian, let him
20 explain what the administrative assessment is and what
21 it means and then we'll have Chris Cahnovsky from the
22 Illinois EPA come up and give us a little 15-minute
23 history.

24 And we've got all sorts of literature up here,
25 which I really don't want to take all the way back to

1 Chicago. So we've got copies of the Order, brochures,
2 backgrounds for the states and fact sheets.

3 UNIDENTIFIED: Anyone needs one that doesn't
4 have one?

5 MR. JOYCE: Just step right up. Okay. Let me
6 turn it over to Brian Barwick. Thank you.

7 MR. BARWICK: Thanks, Mike. The first thing I
8 would say is that we use a lot of acronyms and if you
9 catch us, just raise your hand and we'll try to avoid
10 that. But my (inaudible/train) -- what it is in plain
11 terms is an enforceable agreement required to take
12 certain acts over the next several months.

13 And it's enforceable in the sense that if it
14 fails to meet the scheduling in the agreement, we can
15 assess financial penalties. We can take other action.
16 It's, you know, beyond the scope of just --
17 (inaudible/train).

18 So I think that, if I'm not mistaken, this might
19 be the first time in a long tortured history with this
20 problem that we actually have an enforceable agreement
21 to require a proper investigation and, you know, study
22 on the site and also design a remedy to finally fix the
23 problem.

24 I'm not going to spend a lot of time talking
25 about the legal authority. I'm going to assume that

1 most of you don't really care that much about that.
2 What you really want to hear about is what is really
3 going to happen and the facts of the matter. If
4 anybody has questions like that, I will be glad to
5 answer those probably, you know, after the meeting.

6 But that does raise another issue. What we
7 would like to do is tonight, the Order -- we signed the
8 Order. Under our process, we are taking formal comment
9 tonight that will be recorded by a court reporter. And
10 we'll be taking that comment into account as to whether
11 or not we're fine with the Order as written or agree
12 that it must be changed, and after that, negotiations
13 with the oil companies.

14 So your comments will be taken into account.
15 There will be a formal response to comments prepared
16 and made available in the library or if anyone would
17 like a copy mailed directly to them, just let Mike know
18 and we'll take a list and we'll do that too.

19 For tonight, during the presentations here, if
20 you have questions or during the comment period you
21 have questions and would like some feedback right now,
22 we'll do that. But we want to try to move it along so
23 that everybody has a chance to speak and then at the
24 end of the meeting, we're going to hang around and be
25 available to answer any more questions that anybody

1 should have.

2 When you're looking at the Order, the basic
3 structure of it is that it requires the oil companies,
4 the carpet group they call themselves, to investigate
5 and characterize the full wells by the Village
6 department. They also have to design a final remedy in
7 a select. And in terms of time frame, the
8 investigation should be done by the end of this
9 calender year, December of 2004, at which point we'll
10 be looking at remedies.

11 And in the interim period of time until we get
12 to that point and get a remedy implemented, the Order
13 also requires the companies to take interim actions to
14 try to protect residents in their homes to prevent the
15 intrusion of vapors, respond to it. And Steve and
16 Kevin will both describe what that will be there.

17 When you're looking at the boards, what you want
18 to do is you will notice that most of the details of
19 all submission of series of work plans. And those work
20 plans will be available. The ones that I have approved
21 will be available in the library the next few days.
22 There are other plans that are being developed and will
23 be submitted over the course of the year, we'll have to
24 review them too. And then once they're approved, they
25 become enforceable under the Board.

1 So with that, I want to hand over this to Chris
2 Cahnovsky, who's going to give a little background
3 before Steve and Kevin talk about the specific actions
4 that we're requiring. But, again, it is an enforceable
5 agreement. And we're optimistic that we're going to
6 get something done here.

7 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Good evening. My name is Chris
8 Cahnovsky and I'm with the Illinois EPA out of the
9 Collinsville regional office. And I'm going to talk
10 tonight about the -- a little bit about the history of
11 the hydrocarbon plume under the Village of Hartford.
12 And I have been given 15 minutes to make this
13 presentation. And 15 minutes does not really do
14 justice to a problem that's been going on for over 38
15 years, so please forgive me if I miss something to that
16 that you feel is important.

17 The Hartford area has been home to many
18 refineries over the years. The most notable ones are
19 the BP Amoco refinery which started out as Standard Oil
20 and Amoco/BP and now BP Products North America. That
21 refinery opened around 1908. It closed in 1981. And
22 the dismantling was completed around 1991.

23 And, currently, BP is required under a permit
24 from the Illinois EPA and a permit from the U.S.EPA to
25 control the groundwater underneath their refinery, the

1 former refinery, and to perform corrective action. And
2 they are currently in compliance with that permit.

3 The Shell Oil Company, Equilon, Tosco, Conoco
4 and Phillips opened around 1918. This is currently
5 owned and operated by ConocoPhillips. And they also
6 have a Part B permit which requires them to control
7 groundwater and perform corrective action. And that
8 permit's a little different because there's -- Shell
9 Oil Company owned it and they retained some of the
10 liabilities. So there are some of those issues there.
11 But currently, Shell and ConocoPhillips are in
12 compliance with that agreement.

13 And there was a White Star Refinery which I know
14 almost nothing about except I have an aerial photograph
15 that shows that it was closed prior to 1941. So if
16 anybody wants to corner me after and give me some
17 history on it, that would be great.

18 And then there's the Wood River Refining
19 Company. And then they become PREMCOR. And that
20 started in 1941 as Wood River Refining Company. In
21 1950, it was bought by Sinclair. In 1967, Clark Oil and
22 Refinery, a Wisconsin Corporation, acquired the
23 facility. And in 1981, Apex Oil Company acquired it
24 and operated as Clark when they acquired it from the
25 Wisconsin folks. And then in 1988, through a

1 bankruptcy, Apex Bankruptcy, AOC Holding purchased it
2 and it became Clark Refining and Marketing. Of course,
3 as we all know, in 2000 they changed their name to
4 PREMCOR refining Group. And the refinery closed in
5 2002. And ConocoPhillips has purchased certain assets
6 and plans to open part of it back this year.

7 The IEPA and PREMCOR have reported significant
8 groundwater contamination under the refinery, itself.
9 In 2003, pumps were put on some of their recovery wells
10 and began recovering the three-phase hydrocarbon under
11 the refinery itself and to date, 15,000 gallons of the
12 three-phase have been recovered.

13 And the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Attorney
14 General's Office -- that's IAOG, that's one of the
15 acronyms. They're currently negotiating a consent
16 Order with PREMCOR for these groundwater violations and
17 corrective action of the groundwater under the
18 refineries. So I hope to have an Order on that really
19 soon.

20 And then there's many pipeline companies that
21 run through Hartford. ConocoPhillips, Shell, Buckeye,
22 Cherokee, Pope, Ozark, Sinclair, Atlantic Richfield,
23 there's numerous pipelines that run through the town.

24 And there's been -- as you know, there's been
25 many, many complaints filed with the various agencies

1 over odor complaints that started in 1966 and they
2 continue to today. Even this month, we've had
3 complaints. And IEPA has in our records, we've
4 documented over 363 odor complaints and 26 fires. And
5 the complaints occur more frequently after heavy rains
6 when the river is up.

7 And this is an example of some of the fires that
8 were -- these are our only photos, only known photos
9 the agency has of fires. So if anybody has any photos
10 that they would like to share with me, I would
11 appreciate that also.

12 Something -- the investigation really started in
13 1978. In 1978, there was 76 reported complaints and
14 five fires. The Illinois EPA, Clark, Shell and Amoco
15 began investigating the problem in March of 1978.

16 And the areas most affected by the problem were
17 found to be Hawthorne -- bounded by Hawthorne to the
18 south, Rand to the north, Olive to the east and Route 3
19 to the west. And this is a picture of the area. And
20 this data here is the plume as it was in 1978. Now,
21 this is 1978 data and this is prior to the pumping.

22 The IEPA and the Mayor of Hartford requested
23 Clark, Shell and Amoco to really investigate this
24 problem in depth. And the three companies hired an
25 engineering firm to study the problem. Shell put in

1 wells on Birch Street -- right out here and found
2 leaded gasoline similar to that from Clark refinery in
3 the ground.

4 And then the engineering study concluded -- it
5 could not conclude positively the source but they
6 pointed the source to the Clark lines from the refinery
7 to the river -- once they run down Elm Street. The
8 Clark lines that ran up to the Piasa Terminal, I
9 believe that that is now the Wood River Hartford
10 Terminal, correct me if I'm wrong. And the Shell
11 product line runs down Rand Street to the river docks.

12 And the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Attorney
13 General's Office entered into a voluntary agreement
14 with Clark and Clark Oil and Refinery, Wisconsin
15 Corporation. And Clark put in the three recovery wells
16 that are currently in the Village right now. They
17 installed these in 1978. Recovery well number 3 on
18 Birch Street did not run very well. Recovery Well
19 Number 1 and 2 were the main producers. And from 1978
20 to 1990, 1,161,981 gallons of gas of hydrocarbons were
21 removed.

22 From 1991 to 1993, Clark submitted no reports to
23 the agencies. In 1994 to 2002, 82,700 gallons were
24 removed. Somewhere in this time, I believe that
25 Recovery Well Number 1 stopped producing as well as it

1 did in the beginning.

2 And they stopped pumping -- PREMCOR stopped
3 pumping at all in 2002 and closed the refinery. And
4 the triangles on the map here show the locations of the
5 recovery wells.

6 This is a picture of one of the recovery wells
7 that is on North Olive Street. In 1989, the Illinois
8 EPA sent notices of violation to Clark Refining and
9 Marketing, Shell Oil and Amoco.

10 The IEPA and the Illinois Attorney General's
11 Office asked the three oil companies to jointly fund a
12 hydrocarbon recovery system. The three companies each
13 claimed that the hydrocarbons beneath Hartford were not
14 a result of their respective operations.

15 All three companies told the agency that they
16 would not expend any funds to install and operate a
17 recovery system without a determination being made
18 about who was responsible. But all three companies did
19 agree to investigate the problem.

20 The 1990 investigation consisted of
21 identification of potential sources, the health effect
22 which was -- that part was done by the Illinois
23 Department of Public Health, and a third part was the
24 hydrology and chemistry of the hydrocarbon plume.

25 And through this investigation, some of the

1 potential sources that were identified to begin with,
2 Clark lines north to the Hartford Wood River Terminal,
3 the Clark PREMCOR lines to the river dock and the Shell
4 lines to the river dock.

5 And the Sinclair owned and Arco operated lines
6 from Clark that ran to just north of the Hartford Wood
7 River docks, those two lines are abandoned and the
8 PREMCOR refinery, itself.

9 And there were many releases reported. For
10 brevity, I took all of the release data that I had and
11 just mined it into one slide. From 1973 to 1978, there
12 were eight documented releases of unknown hydrocarbons.
13 Reading some of these reports, some of them seemed
14 rather significant.

15 In 1979, to present, we have over 40 documented
16 and reported releases of hydrocarbons totalling over
17 324,000 gallons. And 294,000 gallons of that was in
18 1989, Shell-Rand Avenue release, and only 1600 gallons
19 to date have been recovered from that release.

20 In 1999, an investigation also tried to estimate
21 the amount of hydrocarbons. Based on 1990 hydrocarbon
22 thickness calculations, the Illinois EPA estimated --
23 and this is not an exact science by any means,
24 estimated that there was between 937,282 gallons to 2.8
25 millions gallons of hydrocarbons under the Village.

1 Also, the 1990 investigation looked at the
2 fingerprinting. What's the gas made out of. Well, it
3 was determined that the majority of the gasoline was a
4 leaded gasoline with tetramethyllead as the additive,
5 coming from a hydrochloric acid alkylation process,
6 which pointed to the Clark refinery.

7 Other fingerprinting showed that there was also
8 some regular unleaded gasoline similar to that of the
9 Shell Rand Avenue release, in the Arco Sinclair
10 pipeline release.

11 The IEPA recommended in 1990 that a vapor
12 recovery system be put in that would control -- that
13 would prevent the vapors from entering people's homes,
14 to prevent the vapor intrusion. And then negotiations
15 between the Illinois Attorney General's Office and
16 Clark, the new Clark with AOC Holding Company, which
17 became PREMCOR, that resulted in a voluntary action to
18 install the vapor recovery system that's currently
19 operating at the time of today.

20 That was installed in August of 1992. It
21 consists of 12 recovery wells. The recovery wells suck
22 up vapors and take it to a thermal treatment unit
23 that's on the PREMCOR property. From 1994 to 2002, the
24 vapor recovery system has recovered 762,401 gallons of
25 hydrocarbons.

1 And this overview shows where the -- where the
2 recovery wells are located. They are on -- they are on
3 Cherry Street, Date Street, Elm Street, and Forest and
4 up here on, near Birch Street. And they go to a
5 controlled vault and then down into the refinery. They
6 go to this unit here which is a thermal treatment unit
7 where they are burned. And this process, this thermal
8 treatment process is permitted by the Illinois EPA's
9 Bureau of Revenue.

10 In May, 2002, when we got -- Illinois EPA and
11 the Illinois Department of Public Health and the
12 Hartford Fire Department received some of the most
13 serious complaints in recent history. The IEPA
14 believed that the vapor recovery system would eliminate
15 most of the complaints.

16 But in 2002, as you know, it's not the case.
17 There were numerous odor complaints. The reading
18 inside the homes showed high organic vapors and
19 combustible levels in homes. Many people have --
20 several people had to be evacuated from homes.

21 October 4 of 2002, the Illinois EPA in response
22 to those May 2002 complaints made an emergency referral
23 to the Illinois Attorney General's office to file a
24 complaint against the potential responsible parties.

25 During that time, there were negotiations in

1 2002 that the Illinois EPA and the Attorney General's
2 office had with PREMCOR Refining and Apex Oil, Shell,
3 BP, the Atlantic Richfield, and Sinclair. Those
4 negotiations went on for a while. The oil companies
5 would not move off center to fix the problem in a
6 timely manner.

7 So on May 29, 2003, the Illinois Attorney
8 General's Office filed a complaint for an injunctive
9 relief and other relief against PREMCOR and Apex with
10 more investigation to follow for the others.

11 On June 17, 2003, the Illinois EPA, the Illinois
12 Department of Public Health and the agency for toxic
13 substance and disease registry completed a public
14 health assessment for the Hartford residential vapor
15 exposure. And those agencies concluded that this
16 situation was a public health hazard.

17 From June 2003 to next month, the Illinois
18 Department of Public Health with assistance from the
19 Illinois EPA are conducting indoor air sampling in many
20 homes in Hartford to determine if there's chronic
21 levels of hazardous chemicals in the homes. And that
22 study is still going on. There's one more round due in
23 April. And we really, really, really appreciate
24 everyone letting us come into their homes to put these
25 aluminum canisters in. I know it's an inconvenience

1 but we really appreciate it. This is some very good
2 data that we're getting.

3 On May 29, 2003, the Illinois EPA requested
4 assistance from the U.S.EPA Region 5 emergency response
5 branch to take the lead in the enforcement and
6 remediation of Hartford.

7 And that brings us up to Kevin and Steve to take
8 it from here, to what's been going on since June of
9 2003 when they stepped into this project.

10 MR. FARYAN: My name is Steve Faryan. I'm with
11 the U.S.EPA Emergency Response Task. And Kevin Turner
12 is going to speak after me.

13 I want to cover today what's covered in the
14 Order as far as work to be performed and what steps
15 we've taken to try to get some relief for you folks
16 from a problem that has been ongoing for many, many
17 years.

18 Now, I want to let you know that it's really a
19 luxury having Kevin and I both working on the same
20 team. As a team, we also have Brian, one of our best
21 attorneys. We have also formed a good team with
22 Illinois EPA to address this problem really on a whole
23 and to take the situation on, make sure that we get
24 this right for you folks this time. And I give you my
25 word that I will work as hard as I can involving

1 resources I have and all the laws that we have to bring
2 some relief to you-all.

3 Brian will explain the Order to you a little
4 bit. Really, the meat and potatoes of it is that this
5 is work to be performed for it. And under that we
6 have, as Brian said, also stipulated penalties and work
7 plans that will be submitted. And they need to be
8 submitted on time. We have an appendix at the end of
9 the work plan that lays out all of those deadlines for
10 all of those different work plans that we need
11 submitted.

12 So as Brian mentioned, it's a very positive
13 thing that we have an enforceable Order, something
14 that's going to require all this work to be done with
15 our oversight and also continued oversight by EPA and
16 U.S.EPA in our contracts.

17 The first task to go down is to install and
18 monitor five Sentinel wells to protect the Hartford
19 Municipal Water System. This was something that
20 Illinois EPA also pushed very hard for. We got these
21 installed. And the good news is that all of those
22 wells came up non-detecting. I'm going to show you.
23 So the water system is protected right now. We're
24 going to keep that monitoring going continually.

25 Another thing that Kevin is going to speak of is

1 the contingency plan to respond to vapor complaints.
2 If you have complaints in the home, Kevin is going to
3 tell you how to take those actions. If you take
4 anything home tonight is that if you have a complaint,
5 it's going to be addressed and the companies are going
6 to work to find some temporary residence and also use
7 the local Hartford Fire Department to assist in that
8 and Illinois EPA.

9 We are also working on evaluating and improving
10 existing soil vapor extraction systems. Something that
11 Chris was just talking about. I'm going to go through
12 that tonight. And there's an ongoing pilot test of two
13 homes, vapor recovery system in these two homes.

14 The work -- this work has all been done prior to
15 the signing of the Order, which is really unprecedented
16 and the companies have stepped up to start taking
17 action. And that is a positive thing, and see all of
18 this work that's already taking place even before
19 signing of the Order.

20 We're also conducting an area wide investigation
21 to determine the extent of the hydrocarbon plume and
22 the dissolve phase -- that's when the product is
23 dissolved into the groundwater. This is needed so that
24 we can make, install the proper systems to, you know,
25 control and collect all the product that's been

1 released into the soil and into the groundwater.

2 We're also conducting a needs assessment. This
3 is an assessment of your home to determine what the
4 vapor problems are and how to correct it. And that's
5 another thing that you should take out of here tonight
6 is if you do have a problem, this is the way to get the
7 wheel rolling, to get this assessment done. And from
8 there, take some steps to help immediately until some
9 of these other systems can be installed.

10 So those are two things that you need to take
11 tonight. That is, you know, if you call, you can get
12 the wheel rolling, get this assessment done. And if
13 you have a vapor problem, Kevin is going to go on on
14 how to take care of that. We're also going to talk a
15 bit about how the systems would be installed.

16 Some other things that will be beefed up in the
17 future, vapor pathway study to find out how these
18 vapors are getting into the homes and into the sewers.
19 We're looking at other sources, pipelines, past
20 releases, sewers, utilities. If you have other
21 information as to other releases or things that you
22 have theories, you folks have been in this town all
23 your lives, I've heard a lot of things from talking to
24 you-all. And if you have some information, please give
25 it to us. All of our numbers and names are on the back

1 of the fact sheet or you can submit those comments to
2 that.

3 And as Brian mentioned, part of the Order was
4 designed after recovery of the hydrocarbon layer. We
5 felt that just recovering the vapor, putting vapor
6 recovery in your home is not going to take care of the
7 problem. The real culprit and everything that needs to
8 be based on is removal of the hydrocarbon layer.

9 But we are also going to include operation and
10 maintenance of all of the systems to make sure that
11 they're operating fully and to their designed
12 capability.

13 You may have seen this truck running around
14 town. This is the area wide investigation that was
15 done. This was to determine the geology in the area
16 and also to determine where the hydrocarbon layer was
17 and also where some of the residuals were in the soil.
18 And what we're going to use this data to do, that is,
19 to install permanent monitoring wells to make sure that
20 we have good definition of where all the contamination
21 is.

22 We also conducted some soil borings and
23 collected soil samples during that part. This
24 information again will be used to determine where the
25 permanent wells will be and also to help us design

1 vapor recovery systems and will also be used to develop
2 a site model which will tell us, again, not only which
3 way the groundwater is flowing, possibly there's some
4 -- where the larger sources were and also how deep the
5 product is and how wide the soil contamination is also.

6 This map is showing all of the locations that
7 were investigated just recently. The red dots are
8 actually used to define a hydrocarbon layer. The
9 yellow dots are actually the Sentinel wells that I
10 spoke of earlier that are used to monitor and make sure
11 that the municipal water supply of Hartford is being
12 protected. As I mentioned, all of those levels came up
13 non-detectible. And those will be monitored quarterly
14 by the Hartford Working Group to give us any warning if
15 there's any movement towards your municipal water
16 supply.

17 There's five of those monitoring wells. Again,
18 they showed no -- detection of any contaminate. That
19 will be done quarterly. So that is some good news that
20 we have to report to you-all and that will be continued
21 on, that will be an ongoing monitoring thing.

22 This is some of the information we're just
23 getting in now from the investigation. All those red
24 dots that I showed you earlier. The dotted line, the
25 shaded area is an estimate right now of where the

1 hydrocarbon is, okay? This will be the floating
2 hydrocarbon. This does not detail any dissolved
3 material that I spoke of earlier. That's going to be
4 an additional investigation.

5 This report, this investigation report is due to
6 us here in about a week coming from Clayton
7 Environmental who is one of the consultants for
8 Hartford Working Group. We have this enlarged map over
9 here also. If you have any questions about this, as
10 Brian said earlier, we'll be around here later to
11 explain exactly what this means.

12 What this tells us now, as we're going to focus
13 on collection and investigate -- and further
14 investigation so we can focus our effort on where the
15 real problem is here.

16 Another work plan that was required under the
17 Order that is actually already completed was an
18 evaluation of the soil vapor collection system that
19 Chris spoke of earlier.

20 What this evaluation showed us and Hartford
21 Working Group was the current system was found to be
22 plugged up. There was a lot of tar and biological,
23 what we call biomass, plugged up the wells. There was
24 also water in some of the manifold systems. There was
25 a problem with the baffles that were located under the

1 terminal treatment unit. They were corroded and they
2 were replaced. So, generally, operation and
3 maintenance was lacking or non-existent. The system
4 was not working as designed.

5 This is just a general schematic that we have.
6 We have a blowup on the board over here, also, of what
7 the soil vapor extraction system does. And as Chris
8 mentioned, really, it's removing vapor from primarily
9 the sand layer and then brings it up over to the
10 thermal treatment unit and then burns it over there.

11 What we're seeing as I mentioned now is really,
12 there's really not a lot of vapor that's being
13 collected. The system was plugged up and it needed
14 maintenance. So that was some good information for us
15 to go forward.

16 As part of that, we required them to do a pilot
17 study to install a new well to see, you know, if this
18 system -- if we installed new wells and expanded it, it
19 would work. What the pilot test showed us was that it
20 was very successful in providing a, what we call radius
21 of influence that just means that it's working in an
22 area of 150 to 200 foot radius. Okay? From the
23 extraction well. And what -- we're monitoring the
24 vacuum points outside of that. That's how we determine
25 that.

1 This pilot test showed that the total petroleum
2 hydrocarbon that we analyzed for was 100 times greater
3 than the existing wells. This is just for one well.
4 So the installation of a new well worked 100 times
5 better than the well that's sitting there right now.

6 The Hartford Working Group has proposed to
7 replace the existing 12 vapor control wells immediately
8 and do some upgrades on the system. And they're also
9 going to propose expansion, upgrade of the vapor
10 control system. That's going to come -- an additional
11 work plan that is coming down the road to us. This is
12 all, again, a requirement in the Order.

13 Replacement of the existing wells, evaluation of
14 the thermal treatment unit, that's where it's burned
15 at, is going to take place and be completed by the end
16 of June of 2004.

17 So this is something that's going to be done
18 quickly because we feel as we heard from you-all that
19 the system does work somewhat, it provided some relief
20 to you for a while, although it wasn't total relief.
21 But to get the system back operational and expanding is
22 one of our priorities.

23 That -- review investigation data and compare
24 with a group that will submit an expansion plan for
25 that system to expand it further, part of that is even

1 ongoing. The sewers are going to be replaced at
2 Watkins. Some manifold pipe is going to be laid down
3 through that area to be tied in later.

4 Upgrade and installation of the new system and
5 components is going to take place in September. The
6 new system startup and testing will be October of 2004.
7 So this is some action you're going to see right away.

8 Chris told and showed you a little bit about the
9 thermal treatment units. These are the two blowers
10 that we have existing over on Birch Hill (phonetic)
11 property. These two will be kept tied in and expanded
12 to some other wells. There will also be control panel
13 upgrades, possibly some additional blower upgrades if
14 they're needed. And all that work is going to be done
15 based on that pilot study I told you about.

16 As Brian mentioned to you earlier, the Order
17 requires a designed hydrocarbon recovery. And part of
18 that design is a pilot test to see what system would be
19 the best to recover the hydrocarbon product that's
20 floating on top of the layer.

21 A new product recovery well was installed last
22 week. There's currently active recovery going on in
23 recovery well number 2 and recovery well number 3. The
24 design will be based on a lot of these pilot studies
25 that are being done. As we told you, we feel, and I

1 know you-all have expressed that to me earlier, that
2 recovery of the product is essential in providing
3 relief to you-all. Not just pulling it out of your
4 homes or pulling it out of the soil, we need to collect
5 the product too.

6 The design that was done under this Order, the
7 actual collection and operation and maintenance will be
8 done under an ensuing Order that we will start to work
9 out and start to meet with the Hartford Working Group
10 in the fall of 2004.

11 This will be what a typical petroleum product
12 hydrocarbon recovery well will look like. What we are
13 seeing is investigation work and monitoring wells that
14 we have already on site. The collection well goes down
15 about 31 feet, roughly, across the area, and floats on
16 top of the water. There will be a starting pump,
17 skimmer. There are different systems that we're going
18 to test to see what would be the best one to recover
19 the hydrocarbon layer.

20 With that, I'm going to turn it over to Kevin to
21 explain about the contingency plan and needs
22 assessments.

23 MR. TURNER: Thanks. My name is Kevin Turner.
24 I'm with the U.S.EPA as well. And I live in Marion,
25 Illinois, about two hours south of here. I'm going to

1 be talking about three things -- primarily, three
2 things. I know you-all have been sitting here for a
3 while. And this meeting is really for you guys to be
4 talking to us but we feel like we've got to lay some
5 foundation here before we open it up for questions.

6 I'm going to be talking, as Steve indicated,
7 about the contingency plans that we are working on and
8 have in place. And, actually, let me back up here a
9 second. Everything that I'm going to be talking about,
10 it has to do with your homes. Everything that Steve
11 talked about, just about everything that he talked
12 about has to do with the Greater Hartford Area Wide
13 Study that we are doing, in relation to the product
14 that's on the groundwater or the plume or the vapors
15 that are associated with that plume.

16 I'm going to be talking about your homes,
17 contingency plans, something we call needs assessment.
18 And then following the needs assessment is what can be
19 done about it. Now, when it comes to -- what we call
20 a -- we're calling a contingency plan. The reason we
21 came up with this concept was, is that we recognize
22 that the product needs to eventually come off the
23 groundwater.

24 But you-all have problems right now. And it
25 takes a little bit of time to design and come up with

1 the system that effectively is going to remove the
2 product from the groundwater. And some of you-all have
3 vapors in your homes today. So if we were to wait
4 until we installed and had operational groundwater
5 pumping units, that wouldn't do any good for you guys
6 today.

7 And so we came up with this concept called a
8 contingency plan. And the contingency plan is set up
9 to give you guys an opportunity that if you smell
10 vapors in your home or feel that you have vapors in
11 your home, you have an avenue to go to to try to find
12 some relief.

13 What I mean vapors, if you smell something, if
14 you have headaches, if you have --

15 AUDIENCE: Allergies?

16 MR. TURNER: Not necessarily allergies because
17 we all have allergies. But if you have some reasonable
18 issue to vapors in your home, the initial thing to do
19 -- and we've got to stress this over and over, is to
20 call 911. The Hartford Fire Department is the first
21 line that is going to come to your house. We have --
22 and we are working with the companies, with the
23 Illinois EPA and with the Illinois Department of Public
24 Health on what happens after you call 911.

25 After you call 911 and the fire department comes

1 out, there's a series, a call-down list that we have
2 that will trigger public actions that include Illinois
3 Department of Public Health, Illinois EPA, and the
4 companies. Now, every time it may not be the same
5 person, every time it may not be always Illinois
6 Department of Public Health. It may not always be the
7 Illinois EPA. It's just that we have a call-down list.
8 But the key on this is that you've got to call 911.

9 Now, I also recognize that some of you are
10 reluctant to call 911 for a variety of reasons. We
11 can't stress it enough that if you feel you have vapors
12 in your home, 911 is the first order of business.

13 The contingency plan calls for the companies to
14 provide temporary housing for a short term. And if
15 vapors are found in your home, you could be housed in a
16 hotel and meals paid for. So it's not as if you're
17 going to be pushed out into the street.

18 Now, I also realize that most of you are long-
19 term residents here and we have run into this already
20 this spring, individuals who feel they have vapors in
21 their homes have notified in some way, shape or form
22 the authorities about that and don't want to be moved
23 out. Okay. That, that's fine. But you are given the
24 opportunity to be housed in a hotel for a short period
25 of time and meals provided for.

1 The contingency plan also then takes into the
2 next step. And that is what we call the needs
3 assessment. And the needs assessments are as important
4 as that initial call or that initial notification. The
5 needs assessment is really important because in order
6 for us to know that you have vapors in your home or
7 feel you have vapors in your home, we have to be able
8 to come in and test for it. It doesn't do us any good
9 if we hear second or third hand about vapors in a home
10 but yet we can't get into that home to test for it. We
11 have agreements in place with the companies for this
12 testing method.

13 And the testing method is -- is air monitoring.
14 We have got monitoring equipment for screening of your
15 air, or as one person indicated, a sueing canister.
16 And that's, that takes a 12-hour, 24-hour air sample in
17 your home.

18 The needs assessment also looks at the structure
19 of your home -- whether your basement is poured
20 concrete, brick and block, whether there are cracks in
21 the basement, in the walls and the floor, what your
22 sump pump looks like. To date, we have done 38 needs
23 assessments in Hartford. And what we call North or not
24 just us, I believe what you-all call North Hartford is,
25 I believe, Hawthorne north, within that area, we have

1 estimated to be approximately 200 homes and we have
2 conducted 38 needs assessments. And that was, again,
3 conducted by the companies, the oil companies have
4 hired a variety of firms to do these needs assessments.

5 Of those 38 homes, 34 of them were planned,
6 meaning that they sent out notification via the mail,
7 they did door to door, they knocked on doors, and then
8 were granted permission to enter into the home,
9 primarily in the basement. The basement seems to be
10 one of the primary routes for vapors entering the home
11 and then conducted a needs assessment.

12 The other four and I may have my numbers -- I
13 think I probably have my numbers just a little bit
14 wrong here, the others -- the remaining ones were
15 conducted because of vapor complaints. About three
16 weeks ago, we had heavy rains in the area and as we all
17 know, heavy rains, rise and fall of the Mississippi
18 River, tends to trigger additional vapors in your
19 homes.

20 So about three weeks ago, heavy rains occurred
21 and sure enough, we ended up getting several
22 complaints. And from these complaints, we were able to
23 go into peoples homes that allowed us to and looked at
24 the actual, you know, we put in -- did the monitoring
25 in the home.

1 After the needs assessment is completed, the
2 companies are required to send to the agencies the
3 results of those needs assessments. And then the
4 agencies make the determination as to who gets, who
5 needs to move the next step forward or who doesn't.

6 So what is the next step forward? If you, if --
7 just surmise here a second. If you're in a home, in
8 your home you've got a vapor complaint and we come and
9 do a needs assessment and we say yes, you have a
10 problem in your home with vapors. And that's important
11 because in several homes we did find natural gasolines
12 associated with your furnaces or with your hot water
13 heaters. So, if anything, let us in there and we'll at
14 least check that.

15 If we find that, yes, you do have vapor problems
16 in your home, we are prepared to install a system in
17 your home to remove the vapors from your home. And
18 there are any number of scenarios out there of what
19 that might entail.

20 And each home is not the same. Each home could
21 be different. And one home may require one type of
22 system and another home might require a different type.
23 It could be as simple as a blower in the, in a window.
24 Or it could be as complex as an in-home subslab where
25 you drill through the slab of your basement floor, seal

1 that up and suck the vapors from beneath the basement
2 floor.

3 The thing is, is that each home would be looked
4 at individually. No, no -- there isn't one system for
5 each home -- I mean, there isn't one system for
6 everybody. There's a separate, potentially, a separate
7 system for every home.

8 So who would actually get one? Does everybody,
9 does the whole town of Hartford get a system? The
10 answer to that would be no. The answer of who gets one
11 would be who needs one. If we come into your home and
12 we find that, yes, you do have a vapor problem, and,
13 yes, the vapors are high enough that they are
14 potentially dangerous, then you would get one.

15 If we come into your home -- and some of these
16 34 homes that we've been in already, some of those may
17 not ever need any kind of system. But at least they
18 were checked out. And at least those homeowners are at
19 least at ease or will be -- I don't think those results
20 have been released yet. But at least those homeowners
21 will be at ease that they do not have a problem.

22 What I am here to say is that if you need a
23 system in your home and it's determined that, you will
24 get a system. Now, what exactly type of system that
25 is, remains to be seen.

1 Again, I would like to stress, though, that
2 these systems that may or may not go into your homes is
3 a temporary measure. These systems are not the
4 ultimate answer. The ultimate answer is to remove the
5 product off of the groundwater. And these systems are
6 a temporary measure before we can actually get large
7 scale removal of the product from the groundwater.

8 We have done a number of pilot tests -- or I
9 should say two pilot tests in town here. And one of
10 them was a system where we were inside the home and we
11 drilled through the slab of the basement floor and
12 sucked the vapors from beneath the floor. The other
13 one was where you were outside the home and we drilled
14 holes along the foundation and tried to suck the vapors
15 from around the foundation from the outside.

16 The results are, is that the one from inside the
17 home worked much better than the one from outside the
18 home.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Did you have presence of
20 hydrocarbons in the basement of these houses?

21 MR. TURNER: I'm sorry?

22 UNIDENTIFIED: Did you have presence of
23 hydrocarbons in the basement of these houses that
24 you've tested, the ones you just tested?

25 MR. TURNER: No, we did not. But what we are

1 doing is we're finding out, we're testing out the
2 system. We're testing a variety of systems to see
3 which works best.

4 UNIDENTIFIED: How do you know what the results
5 are --

6 MR. TURNER: Well, because --

7 UNIDENTIFIED: -- the house gets to --

8 MR. TURNER: Because you can introduce a
9 hydergine gas, as an example. You can introduce
10 something and then test it to --

11 UNIDENTIFIED: Well, gas is lighter than air.

12 MR. TURNER: Isn't that what they introduced?

13 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Helium.

14 MR. TURNER: Helium. I'm sorry. Helium gas.
15 So we can introduce things to be able to test the
16 system.

17 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: Isn't helium what makes a balloon
19 float in the air? Isn't it lighter than air, too?

20 MR. TURNER: I don't know the answer to that.
21 Well, I know that's what makes it float, but --

22 UNIDENTIFIED: You're talking about something
23 that settles on the ground, it doesn't settle on the
24 ground.

25 MR. CAHNOVSKY: You want a lighter gas so it

1 will penetrate the soil, come up through the system.
2 If you've got a heavier gas, it won't move through the
3 soil as well. So these -- these are just test gases.

4 UNIDENTIFIED: Are the test gasses heavier than
5 what you're --

6 AUDIENCE: Talking.

7 MR. CAHNOVSKY: From initial indications, they
8 are getting, they are finding -- they are recovering
9 hydrocarbons through the system.

10 MR. TURNER: I think that the point of that is
11 that we are running tests on these things. And the
12 test from inside the home is proving successful versus
13 the test from outside the home is proving less
14 successful.

15 I think -- I just, you know, I'd like to --
16 Steve asked me to reiterate that this is a temporary
17 fix and not the ultimate fix. We are working
18 diligently toward the ultimate fix and that is to
19 remove the product from the groundwater.

20 MS. LONG: I'm Sharon Long. I live on Watkins.
21 And I have big cracks in my basement after they
22 drilled the well out of St. Louis. That -- FEMA
23 waterproofed my basement two years ago. And they
24 inspected my basement. I had no cracks on the floor.
25 And I had no cracks until they put in the well. My

1 neighbor has a dirt basement. And after they drilled,
2 I got like an inch-and-a-half crack in one place and
3 then hairline cracks that water comes up from
4 underneath -- I also live on the old Mississippi water-
5 way, river -- the historic way.

6 And I have called -- I called Shell, Clark,
7 Herbing (phonetic) Drilling -- they loaned the
8 equipment to PREMCOR. I called the Hartford Group, and
9 I was told because I was part of the group of citizens
10 about the land evaluation and I had a lawyer, that I
11 couldn't be helped in any way.

12 And now my basement will flood this spring
13 because of the drilling. And I get no help because I
14 chose a lawyer. And you say this is for everyone.
15 Well, some of us are excluded from anything. I can't
16 get my basement tested for fumes because I chose a
17 lawyer. You say this is for everybody. Well, certain
18 of us have excluded any way you talk to us.

19 MR. TURNER: Yes, ma'am. This is for everybody.
20 And --

21 MS. LONG: Then how come --

22 MR. TURNER: We recognize that a group of
23 you-all have chosen to be represented by counsel. That
24 has complicated things. And we recognize that and we
25 are trying to work through that counsel to allow us to

1 come into the basement. And, again, what I say is that
2 over here -- we've got a sheet over here that says for
3 those people who want a needs assessment, please sign
4 your name.

5 And whether you are represented by counsel or
6 you're not represented by counsel, I encourage you to
7 put your name on there so we can get into your basement
8 and check out these cracks.

9 Now, in terms of whether those cracks are
10 associated with the drilling, I'm not quite sure what
11 drilling that is, I would have to see exactly where
12 this is.

13 MS. LONG: It's the one that's on St. Louis.
14 It's directly across from drilling the big one.

15 MR. TURNER: Whether or not it is associated
16 with the work that we are doing or not, we would have
17 to -- we would have to look at it. I mean, I can tell
18 you, I take you at your word that it is, but we'd have
19 to look at it before I can truly say what the, you
20 know, what the situation is. But we encourage
21 everybody to allow needs assessments in their homes.

22 MS. LONG: Where was the government all these
23 years? And do we have the same people that was working
24 for the government still here?

25 MR. TURNER: Well, we -- we know that this has

1 been going on for 30 some odd years.

2 MS. LONG: It gets worse at night.

3 MR. TURNER: And what we're here to (coughing) is
4 what we are doing as we are going forward here. We
5 recognize and feel that you guys have been living with
6 this for a long time. And what we have now is
7 something a little bit different than what was in the
8 past and that is that we have an enforceable document,
9 we have the law behind us. And I know this is going to
10 sound funny, but we've got a piece of paper that says:
11 Companies, you guys are going to cooperate or else.
12 And we've got a big hammer. And that hammer is bigger
13 than any hammers in the past.

14 And so what we're trying to do today is talk
15 about where we're going now and understanding where
16 you-all have been, but where we are going now.

17 We can take another comment.

18 MS. LONG: I was told there was no fumes in my
19 basement. But noone ever tested.

20 MR. TURNER: Why don't you go ahead?

21 MR. BLACKORBY: Haven't got a lawyer, just
22 myself. Earl Blackorby, B-L-A-C-K-O-R-B-Y, 105 East
23 Hawthorn. On May, 2002, I now have some of the
24 problems that my neighbors have had down at Rand
25 Avenue. It seems like these problems got worse through

1 the years, 30 some years. It's continually got worse.
2 We talk about this vapor recovery if we qualify. I
3 only seem to have problems in the flood stages when
4 we've got very high water. Used to not have any
5 problems. Well, I know the problem's got worse.

6 I'm 61 years old. I don't have 27 years to wait
7 on you to fix the problem. The solution, it seems
8 simple to me, if our part of town can't be controlled,
9 why don't the oil companies do the right thing about it
10 and buy out that section of town. Solve the problem.

11 ** applause **

12 The companies' wells have been put in. I grew
13 up in Hartford and lived in Hartford and I'm proud of
14 the town, but I'm discouraged about what's gone on
15 these last 30 years. I'm discouraged about the
16 recovery thing you put in that doesn't work to put it
17 in my house.

18 I'm 61. I'd like to retire, sell my house and
19 move to Florida or wherever, but my value of my home is
20 going down day after day after day.

21 ** applause **

22 UNIDENTIFIED: Taxes are going up, too.

23 ** applause **

24 MR. BLACKORBY: My issue seems to be simple.
25 We've spent a lot of money drilling holes around town.

1 I wondered why aren't they drilling holes when the
2 river's high and it's kind of a flood stage and we do
3 get all the vapors at the worse time. Why drill in the
4 winter? Why have a guy in the backyard in the winter
5 doing that when there ought to be a better time? Those
6 questions I have and it doesn't seem like -- seems like
7 we get more information or more studies. I'd like
8 something done and I'd like the problem solved. I
9 think the solution is buy the homes out. How long is
10 it going to take to get the gas off the water table, it
11 doesn't really solve the problem like health issues and
12 effects. Thank you.

13 ** applause **

14 MR. TURNER: Are you finished?

15 MR. BLACKORBY: Yes.

16 MR. TURNER: One thing I just want to say is
17 this Order does not contemplate buyouts. If the
18 buyouts are going to occur, it's going to be between
19 the individual homeowner and the companies. The
20 Government is not involved with that at this --

21 UNIDENTIFIED: Why not?

22 UNIDENTIFIED: You had Times Beach.

23 UNIDENTIFIED: You had Times Beach.

24 UNIDENTIFIED: It sure did. Times Beach did, it
25 sure did.

1 MR. TURNER: Again, let me just reiterate, it is
2 not a part of the Order.

3 UNIDENTIFIED: I have a house, do you want to
4 buy it? We can't even give our house away.

5 UNIDENTIFIED: -- spending more than they're
6 worth.

7 MR. TURNER: Yes. Next question.

8 MR. SHORT: Well, this isn't a question. I was
9 supposed to be the first speaker tonight. And I am one
10 of the attorneys. And I'm the attorney who represents
11 -- I don't think -- I know I don't represent you. But
12 we represent about 70 of the families around here. And
13 I was asked to by families and by the EPA to make a
14 statement on behalf of those 70 people. I'm going to
15 do that. But I want to let you in on something.

16 Before I go much further, I want you guys to
17 understand something in this room. That is not your
18 enemy. Okay? They may not have done everything you
19 want them to do, but they are not the enemy. The enemy
20 is the oil refineries. The enemy are the companies
21 that polluted your land and refused to take care of it.
22 It's not those guys. They are acting remedially, maybe
23 they're not acting the way we want them to. And we're
24 going to address that but it's not what this is about.
25 The oil companies have caused this problem. And you

1 know who's going to do the buy out? It's going to be
2 the oil companies. They're the ones who damaged your
3 home. And they are the ones who are going to buy you
4 out. At least the ones that are represented by
5 counsel. Okay?

6 For the record, my name is Keith Short. And I'm
7 a partner at the law firm of Goldenberg, Miller, Heller
8 and Antognoli. I'm working here tonight along with a
9 lady named Jean Kelly who has her own law office.
10 We represent about 70 of the Hartford families.

11 We are here to express our concern regarding the
12 Consent Order that the U.S.EPA recently entered into
13 with the oil companies, the oil companies responsible
14 for the underground contamination of Hartford. The
15 question our clients have are the same questions that
16 almost everybody in this room has, when is someone
17 going to do something about the contamination beneath
18 my home. That's what everybody is -- I'm so irritated
19 by the same frustration you have, it's hard for me to
20 hold this piece of paper straight.

21 I even, midway through this, started ripping
22 parts out because the speech was so long. What you
23 have to understand is this. They are addressing the
24 problem. The problem is contamination. They're
25 addressing the best way at this point they can. It's

1 not everything we want. What we want are buyouts.
2 What we want is the complete and utter testing of every
3 home. One of the things that Steve said is they had
4 confidence in the companies and their cooperation and
5 their effort.

6 Actually, I can tell you for a fact that we
7 don't have that kind of confidence.

8 UNIDENTIFIED: Right.

9 MR. SHORT: At one point we offered five of our
10 families to have their homes tested and the oil
11 companies said no. They refused to do that. So
12 they're right. They are handling it and they're going
13 to need cooperation. Not fight against. We just need
14 to push. That's all we have to do. We'll keep
15 pushing.

16 There's two forms of remedy here, People. The
17 first form of remedy is sitting up there. So no one
18 fight, we'll work with them. The second remedy is the
19 court system. And that's where you're going to get
20 your recovery or at least the recovery that you want.

21 In reference to the Order, itself, the Consent
22 Order, this is the first thing I wrote when I was asked
23 if Jeannine and I'd work together. The question is
24 based on the ineffectiveness of the 78 to 79 recovery
25 wells and vapor recovery system installed in '92. Our

1 clients really question the accuracy of any current
2 requirements under this Consent Order.

3 Some of the questions they have are as follows:
4 If the government isn't sure where the vapors are and
5 who has vapors in their homes and which homes are
6 affected, why not take the approach that gives each
7 resident the opportunity to have the complete and fully
8 effective vapor removal system? Well, not -- why not
9 just move everybody out of their homes and provide them
10 alternative housing? Why don't -- why can't they do
11 that until this problem is solved?

12 Well, they'll tell you they don't have the
13 authority to do that. They'll say they don't have --
14 this, this is one of them -- they don't have the
15 authority to force the oil companies to buy you out.
16 Well, they do have the authority to force the oil
17 companies to act in an effectively legal manner. They
18 do have the authority to insist that -- we don't know,
19 for instance, how much one of these houses cost to
20 vent. But I tell you, considering the health concerns
21 of everyone in this room, the best thing in our opinion
22 is to vent every home and at the oil companies'
23 expense. They created the problem, they can remedy the
24 problem.

25 For instance, one of the things that was brought

1 up was you will have your home tested when you smell
2 the problem. A lot of people simply just don't notice
3 it anymore. They've lived with it --

4 AUDIENCE: Right.

5 MR. SHORT: -- so long that it's something --

6 AUDIENCE: That's right.

7 MR. SHORT: -- they just don't notice. I live,
8 actually, pretty far away from here. But I live within
9 two miles of a hog farmer. And sometimes I wonder how
10 hog farmers can possibly live there. And the guy who
11 lives there doesn't notice it anymore. Doesn't mean
12 it's not there. That is a concern. That's why we say
13 for some of these people these responses are
14 ineffective. They simply don't address the concerns of
15 making sure that if there's a contaminate there, that
16 it's fully vented.

17 Excuse me, I have some more. So one of the
18 questions we have, for instance, is how long will it
19 take to find a remedy to let these people live in their
20 house? How will vapors -- or excuse me. How are the
21 residents going to be protected while the efforts take
22 place?

23 If all clients choose to have the vapor
24 remediation system installed at home, there are a bunch
25 of other questions that come up -- what's the duration

1 of monitoring, how long are you going to do this, what
2 equipment is necessary, what's the noise level for
3 this, how is it going to affect the looks of my house,
4 how long is it going to be there, who's going to remove
5 it once it's installed. These are all the concerns we
6 have of this Consent Order that are clearly not
7 addressed.

8 We implore the IEPA, we implore the U.S.EPA to
9 test these people on an annual basis while permanent
10 remedies are being evaluated. And the government has
11 stated on numerous occasions that it doesn't have the
12 authority to buy people out or to require others to do
13 so. The government, however, does have the authority
14 and the duty to protect these people on an interim
15 basis by requiring that they either be moved out until
16 a permanent remedy is achieved or give an option to
17 have a fully effective vapor recovery system in their
18 home. That's what we ask.

19 What we ask is this. Ask yourself this, would
20 you, as an ordinary citizen, would you want to live in
21 a home that, one, smells offensive; two, it's
22 potentially explosive; three, contains hazardous
23 toxins; and, four, sits on a lake of floating gas.
24 Would you want to buy a home like that? No, you
25 wouldn't.

1 **applause**

2 I hope I don't speak out of turn when I speak
3 for my 70 clients, but please make no mistake.
4 Regarding our intention, we know the source of the
5 problems. We know it's not the EPA. We know it's not
6 the IEPA. What we -- and we genuinely appreciate, and
7 I mean this. Guys, you don't know how difficult it is
8 for them to have gotten to this point already. It's a
9 lot of work -- a lot. And there's a lot further to go.

10 Please remember, we represent people who are
11 trying to live in their own homes because of the
12 actions and inactions of these oil companies. As such,
13 we will be pursuing our clients private cause of
14 action. But in the meantime, one request we have is
15 that the EPA take a stronger stance and either provide
16 a requirement or a mandate, fully effective venting
17 systems or require the oil companies to temporarily
18 relocate these people until the source of the problem,
19 not the fumes, is removed. Thank you for your time.

20 ** applause **

21 MR. TURNER: Yes, sir.

22 MR. BUDDE: Dennis Budde. I live on Watkins. I
23 want it pointed out to the EPA that we're not against
24 you. We do not trust these goddamn oil companies. For
25 30 goddamn years, we've had --

1 ** applause**

2 You say they're good neighbors, well, they're
3 complying, they're volunteering. We forced them to
4 volunteer. They, they are nothing but our enemy. They
5 are not good neighbors, never have been.

6 MS. WALTERS: I'm Trixie Walters. And my
7 mother, Shirley Brehm, lives at 123 East First Street
8 in Hartford here. She's lived here about 15 years.
9 Since moving to Hartford, she has frequent headaches,
10 problems with her eyes and allergies. Being inside her
11 home does not relieve these conditions at all. She is
12 75 years old and due to the fact that her home sits on
13 millions of gallons of gas, she now worries that she
14 might be overcome by fumes at night or have a fire in
15 the basement.

16 Someone coming into her home to monitor it is an
17 inconvenience. It is an invasion of privacy and it's
18 putting her at risk to let a stranger into her home
19 when she's there by herself. That only lets -- it is
20 not reassuring to know you can or will be temporarily
21 relocated if the fumes are high enough to come into
22 your home. That only lets you know that the EPA and/or
23 oil companies think you are still at risk or at least
24 may still be at risk.

25 If you ask me, why don't you sell your home and

1 move somewhere else, we can't. The answer is the
2 property has no value. None.

3 Everyone should be able to feel safe in their
4 own home. But if you live in Hartford, the north end,
5 that's not possible anymore.

6 ** applause **

7 MR. DRUSE: Ernie Druse at 103 East State. I am
8 a safety director and environmental compliance officer
9 for a transportation company, and a marine
10 transportation company. And the question I have is we
11 have a spill out in the water, immediately, we have to
12 respond to clean that mess up. It is our
13 responsibility.

14 Now, with the oil companies, a spill is a spill.
15 There's no immediate action to be taken. And the other
16 question I have is if we had a spill of a million
17 gallons yesterday, would we still be here today? I
18 mean, when -- you know, when is enough enough that
19 they, you know, that they are held accountable to clean
20 up the mess. You know, I mean, sooner or later -- I
21 mean, I have to clean up our messes and I have to do it
22 in a very timely fashion. And I mean, you know, that
23 environment, our fish and everything else concerned, is
24 river pollutants. Well, we're people and we're being
25 polluted. And they are not being held accountable to

1 clean up the mess that they left. Thank you.

2 ** applause **

3 MS. KELLY: My name is Jeannine Kelly. I'm also
4 one of the attorneys working with Goldenberg's office.
5 And I just wanted to state I do have a few statements
6 that the clients wanted me to read into the record. I
7 don't think I'll wait for a bit and let the clients who
8 want to speak -- or let the residents, some of the
9 clients that we have did want to speak, but there are
10 other residents who want to speak.

11 But I just wanted to address the needs
12 assessment survey. I think everybody here has no
13 problem with the U.S.EPA coming in, IEPA coming in, I
14 think everybody has a problem with the oil companies
15 coming in and asking questions and taking samples.
16 Nobody trusts these oil companies here. And that's a
17 big problem.

18 Also, we discussed about the smells. People
19 don't smell. How are we going to know if there's a
20 problem? I believe that everybody should have these
21 recovery systems on their home if they want one until
22 we get a final remedy done or these people move off the
23 property temporarily until something is done.

24 The needs assessment, when you-all come in, when
25 somebody reports a smell even, if it takes several

1 hours for someone to get there and then a sample is
2 done and there's no vapor levels there, what happens?
3 I mean is there another round of sampling done? What's
4 done? What's the followup? Just because the vapors
5 are not coming in at that point in time doesn't mean
6 they are not there. They come up periodically. Nobody
7 knows when they come up.

8 So we just don't feel that the terms of the
9 Consent Order are protective enough in terms of interim
10 remedy. And that's what we're looking for an interim
11 remedy that protects people from the vapors and without
12 being burdened by the oil companies coming in and the
13 distrust people have with what the oil companies have
14 done in the past. They just don't want them in their
15 homes.

16 ** applause **

17 MR. EVANS: My name is Shelby Evans. I live at
18 116 West Date. And we have lived there for 40 years
19 now. I'm impressed, both this afternoon and tonight,
20 EPA, there's more action today than I've seen in
21 certain years, substantive. I appreciate that.

22 I have written out a few things here I wanted to
23 talk about. My wife and I have been a resident of
24 Hartford since 1960. At that time, there was little
25 thought of anything of the environment and what the

1 problems were. We lived through the good and bad times
2 when the companies were Standard Oil, Shell, Wood River
3 Refinery and the air and (inaudible/train).

4 We have suffered with burning eyes and nose.
5 The smell is bad and made breathing difficult.
6 Hartford was known as "stinky town". And that was the
7 truth. I heard that even before I moved here.

8 Around 2 a.m. to 4 a.m, clouds were seen from
9 burning off oil products, the noise of the smoke stack
10 could be heard throughout the area. It was often said
11 around town that if the heat from the burning oil could
12 be harnessed, it would heat the entire area. And I
13 think that's probably so.

14 In 1991 to '92, latter part of '91 and early
15 part of '92, Date Street was torn up for a pipeline to
16 take care of the fumes. People had to park wherever
17 they could. Nobody told us even the day before that
18 this was happening. They come down in the morning and
19 told us, if we had parked in the driveway or out front
20 that we would have to find other parking places --
21 which some of us had to park on Delmar, some of us St.
22 Louis Road, some of us wherever we could find.
23 Luckily, I could park in my back yard. People had to
24 park wherever they could find. And we weren't even
25 told beforehand -- and I just repeated it this here,

1 that they were going to do anything, any digging.

2 Elm Street, which is the street south of us, has
3 been dug up at least five times in the last few years
4 because of a leaking pipeline. One time they was
5 working on Elm Street for about a month. Sometimes
6 they were working day and night with jackhammers,
7 backhoes, powerful flood lights, lights exposed and
8 front loaders. We were never told why. We were always
9 -- and if there was a danger to us.

10 My question is, why has it taken so long to get
11 anything done. The EPA, the IEPA, oil companies, and
12 even the federal government and City of Hartford were
13 all aware of the problems here in Hartford because
14 we've had houses to catch fire, people had to move out.
15 We have had this problem for at least 25 years.

16 I have asked this question many times. When is
17 someone going to do something about it? I am still
18 waiting for answers. And I would appreciate any
19 answers that you can give us here this evening. Thank
20 you very much.

21 *** applause ***

22 MS. EVAN: Marcy Evan, 134 East Watkins Street.
23 in May of 2002, we had to move out of our home due to
24 extremely high levels of benzene in our house. We
25 were out of our house for a month before the health

1 department okayed us to return. Our house has been
2 tested several times in the last two years. Benzidine
3 and other toxics have been present every time. The
4 levels are not as high as the first month, but they're
5 still present and they shouldn't be which causes alarm
6 when our children or ourselves get sick or have
7 headaches. We wonder if the levels are back up, since
8 the smell is not always present when the vapors are.

9 They put in an underground ventilation system
10 that has failed. Now they want to install systems in
11 our homes? How long will they last? These devices are
12 being put in and monitored by the same people that have
13 put us in danger in the first place. You purchase a
14 home as a safe haven for your children in attempting to
15 build a good place to raise kids, but instead we are
16 constantly trying to sell our house or live in a town
17 that we keep putting our children and ourselves in
18 danger on a daily basis.

19 How many times do people have to be in danger
20 before the only resolution is ever committed which is
21 to get the people off the properties before it's too
22 late for a better solution?

23 ** applause **

24 MS. DUKES: I have one question.

25 MR. TURNER: Yes. Could you state your name and

1 spell it as well?

2 MS. DUKES: Betty Dukes, D-U-K-E-S. I have been
3 here 61 years. We have had -- everybody in this room
4 knows. I mean, we've seen it. We've smelled it. My
5 question is -- and I'm not, I'm not upset with the EPA.
6 My question is, like the gentleman was saying, if the
7 oil is on the water, guys make them clean it up before
8 you see any fish, wildlife or whatever. We've got oil.
9 We've got gas in our ground. Do we have to flop on the
10 ground dead before you guys say, okay, oil companies,
11 clean it up. You got to dig.

12 I don't understand why all the testing. Why do
13 you've got to keep testing? It's there. It's not
14 going anywhere. I don't understand that. And I'm not
15 trying to be smart. I really don't understand. If
16 you're saying you have that big of a plume, all of the
17 testing is not going to change that.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: That's right.

19 MR. TURNER: Well, what the testing does is it
20 helps to design an effective removal system. And
21 possibly -- now, I wasn't there, when, in 1990, when
22 they installed various other portions of this thing.
23 But possibly the testing wasn't done sufficiently
24 enough to make it effective enough. And what we hope
25 to do is collect enough and the correct information to

1 make sure that we can get the product off the
2 groundwater and get it off effectively, efficiently and
3 in the shortest time as possible.

4 MS. DUKES: Is this proven that Clark, Shell,
5 all the others are part of that? I mean, is that part
6 of this testing?

7 MR. TURNER: We have an enforceable Order with
8 those companies. We are not finger pointing at this
9 point.

10 ms. DUKES: Okay.

11 MR. TURNER: We know all three companies are on
12 the hook.

13 MS. DUKES: Because all the times they pump,
14 they say that there's thousands of gallons going down
15 to a barge, they only get 75, it don't take much to
16 figure where the other 25 went. I mean, when the lines
17 break on Rand Avenue, that's a big benzine line along
18 there, plus everything else. I mean -- that's all.

19 MR. REED: I have a question.

20 MR. TURNER: Could you state your name and spell
21 it?

22 MR. REED: Bernie Reed, R-E-E-D. If you take
23 all the gas out of the ground, isn't that going to
24 create a void where if there's nothing else put in,
25 that there's some subsidence problems? Because I'm

1 having it.

2 MR. TURNER: Now, first of all it's about 30
3 feet down. And the void would be filled with
4 groundwater, so it's not like it's going to be an empty
5 hole.

6 MR. REED: There's no removal of contaminated
7 material?

8 MR. TURNER: That's where -- we're looking at a
9 dual system where you remove the product and remove the
10 vapors simultaneously. And the vapors are what are
11 attached to the ground or to the soil particles. And
12 if you remove them simultaneously, then you would clean
13 it up.

14 Yes, ma'am, state your name and spell it,
15 please.

16 MS. BATES: Sara Bates, B-A-T-E-S. I live at
17 118 West Cherry. And my question is, okay, so you're
18 going to do this. You're going to put these things on
19 to accomplish. How long is that going to take? How
20 long to do the whole town and where is everybody going
21 to live with their children in the meantime? I have
22 two children that have asthma, a daughter who's in the
23 emergency room numerous times for asthma attacks
24 because of all the crap that's in the air. And I don't
25 know -- this stuff's in our house -- to get it out, how

1 long to get it out, how long is it going to take to do
2 the whole town? wouldn't it be cheaper to buy all of
3 these houses than to go in and do all this stuff to
4 them? Because we're never going to be able to sell
5 them when this is done. We'll never sell our houses.
6 Nobody is ever going to want to buy a house in this
7 town.

8 MR. TURNER: Well, an individual home -- to
9 install the system in an individual home will take two
10 to three days, somewhere in that time frame. And how
11 long it runs is really going to depend on how long it
12 takes to remove the product from the ground.

13 MS. BATES: Do you know what the maintenance is?
14 If there's a problem, just call you guys and you'll
15 come fix it?

16 MR. TURNER: That is in the agreement with the
17 oil companies.

18 MS. BATES: So you suggest if we think we have
19 vapors we are going to call you. And by the time you
20 come out, if there are vapors, you're going to evacuate
21 us, if there aren't vapors, you want us to keep calling
22 every day to see if there's vapors? I mean, day after
23 day you want us to keep calling?

24 MR. TURNER: Yes.

25 MS. BATES: And you're going to come out every

1 day?

2 MR. TURNER: You know, there's an old saying,
3 the squeaky wheel gets the grease. The more squeaky
4 you are, the more grease you're going to get. And so
5 I, I encourage you to call. I encourage everybody to
6 call.

7 MS. BATES: That's a burden on the fire
8 department if they have to come out every day. They're
9 a volunteer fire department, you know. They are going
10 to come every single day and check? I think, I mean, I
11 think you're wasting everybody's time and money. And
12 our, you know, our taxes keep going up --

13 MR. TURNER: Now --

14 MS. BATES: -- and we're not getting anywhere
15 (inaudible)

16 MR. TURNER: Yes, I recognize what you're
17 saying. I hear what you're saying. And if you were to
18 call every single day, we would eventually work out
19 something with you. And if you're smelling something,
20 feeling something, you know, we are going to take --
21 we're going to be sampling to try to figure out what
22 you're smelling. And if there's any number of
23 sampling devices out there, you can take a 12-hour
24 sample, take a 24-hour sample, we can take an
25 eight-hour, any number of sample in duration period

1 where it should cover a time frame where those vapors
2 are present. And it gets quite small too. I mean it
3 samples to a minute level.

4 MS. BATES: So if every person in this town call
5 every day complaining of vapors, you guys are going to
6 come out, right? The Hartford Fire Department will
7 come every day and check it out?

8 MR. TURNER: Spell your name, please.

9 MS. ANDRIA: Kathy Andria, K-A-T-H-Y,
10 A-N-D-R-I-A. I'm with the American Bottom Conservancy.
11 Following up on the woman before me. Is the -- is
12 there something in place that the -- in the Consent
13 Order that funds the fire department for their work,
14 for their time, for their energy, for the people who
15 answer the calls or whatever work that the city has to
16 do?

17 MR. TURNER: No, there's not. There's nothing
18 in there that funds the fire department. We have been
19 working with a group to encourage the group to buy
20 equipment for the fire department that can be used to
21 both support this activity as well as to be used for
22 other activities.

23 MS. ANDRIA: Maybe a comment could be made then
24 that the companies also be required to fund a
25 professional fire department or pay people who are

1 volunteer firemen.

2 I have a question, you mentioned that --
3 regarding this sentinel well that monitoring will
4 continue on a quarterly basis. It seems to me if this
5 is the drinking water, should not that be on more of a
6 regular basis? Because if something is wrong, then
7 they wouldn't have to check for three months and people
8 would be drinking the water that was contaminated for
9 three months.

10 MR. TURNER: Well, quarterly, historically, has
11 been okay. And the reason is is that your drinking
12 water supply wells are over here. The Sentinel wells
13 are over here. Groundwater moves at a rate of -- you
14 know, I don't know what groundwater moves at a rate of
15 over here, but it's not moving fast. It's moving slow.
16 So it's not going to take -- if a sentinel well right
17 here picks up something, it's not going to take three
18 months for it to get here, it's going to take a year,
19 or whatever length of time.

20 MS. ANDRIA: Since you have five, I thought you
21 said, sentinel wells, would it not be a good idea to
22 have them staggered instead of having them all on the
23 same schedule so that you have an opportunity to have
24 regular checking to see if there's any pollutants that
25 it would able to pick up a lot more quickly?

1 I also -- in your Consent Order, it talks about
2 migration of the hydrocarbons, the vapors into the
3 sewer system. I was wondering if you said -- you said
4 I believe earlier that all of the smells are coming
5 from the -- vapors intrusion into the homes are coming
6 from the basement. Well, if this is the source then,
7 would that not be coming up through peoples sinks and
8 bathtubs and everything and should not the companies
9 provide plugs for people so that there's not vapors
10 that come into from the sewer system?

11 MR. TURNER: The simplest answer to your
12 question is yes. I need to correct something on that.
13 Basements are a primary route just because they're
14 lower than the first floor or crawl spaces or something
15 like that. And we are -- we do have agreements in
16 place with the, the oil companies to do things very
17 similar to what you are suggesting.

18 MS. ANDRIA: That's not a big expense, but it
19 could stop vapors from coming in and harming them at a
20 lower level. I mean, whatever level it is, it's still
21 harmful to brains and nervous systems. Thank you.

22 MR. FARYAN: That's a good point about the
23 sewers. The most expected way for the vapors to get
24 inside the home. And some of the things that you
25 mentioned plus installing traps, making sure you have a

1 water trap, that's some of the things we're going to
2 look at. It's all going to be part of a case by case
3 basis on the assessment. That was a very good point.

4 MR. WAHL: My name is Dan Wahl. I've got a
5 question about the sentinel wells. If I look at your
6 map correctly, your farthest most well south is on the
7 other side of town, on the east side; am I correct?

8 MR. TURNER: Yes.

9 MR. WAHL: If so -- and apparently nobody in the
10 room knew the answer right off the top of their head,
11 but if so, according to the vapor, you're doing the
12 studies every couple of months? Aren't our water wells
13 on the west side of town? So has anybody tested on
14 towards our wells, city wells? Because everything I've
15 seen on your chart shows that your farthest well is on
16 the east side.

17 ** applause **

18 MR. CAHNOVSKY: The area is what they call a
19 five-year recharge area. If you look at the wells with
20 -- the wells are along Route 3, you draw a big circle
21 around that, there's a five-year recharge area where
22 those wells draw from. The sentinel wells are placed
23 several, several yards outside of that recharge area.
24 So if you see something in the wells, that still means
25 it has not even gotten to the recharge area. It would

1 take -- correct me if I'm wrong, groundwater people, it
2 would take five years from the time it reaches that to
3 get to the well, to the recharge area.

4 MR. WAHL: According to your statement earlier,
5 you showed a chart, the vapor plume and everything. It
6 was, let's say, several years old, maybe 20 years old.
7 In one of your statements, you even said this was a
8 guess. You're telling me right now that your guess is
9 the groundwater was maybe for five years or existence
10 -- a total amount of existence of five years, you still
11 don't have a sentinel well on this side, why not?

12 MR. CAHNOVSKY: We have --

13 MR. WAHL: I'm drinking the water here. My wife
14 drinks the water here. All these people drink the
15 water here. And I'm not upset with the EPA, but I
16 don't understand this.

17 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Oh, why we're not sampling --
18 groundwater direction, it doesn't flow that way. So
19 you have to -- the groundwater flows to the northeast,
20 so that would be sampling, you would be sampling, you
21 have got clean water coming that way. So it would be
22 sampling downstream. Just didn't really need to do
23 that because the groundwater is flowing and heading
24 toward the plume.

25 MR. WAHL: Okay. You're telling me that the

1 groundwater flows this way.

2 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Yes.

3 MR. WAHL: Which way do the pipes run, the ones
4 under the refinery, west?

5 MR. CAHNOVSKY: It goes from the refinery out to
6 the -- (inaudible)

7 MR. WAHL: Okay.

8 MR. TURNER: Yes, sir.

9 UNIDENTIFIED: I just want to reiterate what
10 this gentleman said over here again about your selected
11 thing on these, you know, vapor recovery things you
12 want to put in some of the homes and where to call if
13 the vapors are bad and all of that.

14 That only happens to me at a very select time of
15 the year, so we're told it isn't a real problem, but I
16 think it is a real problem if it happens one time a
17 year.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: That's right.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: And that's why I really agree
20 with the gentleman, it ought to be in every home. And
21 I still don't hear the answer to the question, how long
22 before you get the gas off the water and out of our
23 home.

24 MR. TURNER: Okay. Well, the -- how long until
25 we get the gas off the groundwater. We are in the

1 process of studying it right now. The study's supposed
2 to be -- is planned to be done by the end of this
3 calender year.

4 We are going to be putting in a -- designing a
5 system following that, early 2005. And I would expect
6 by this time next year, approximately -- please don't
7 hold me to that, to any of these dates, but this time
8 next year, we will probably be installing the system to
9 remove the product from the groundwater.

10 AUDIENCE: (inaudible)

11 MR. TURNER: How long will it take for that to
12 even happen?

13 AUDIENCE: (inaudible)

14 MR. TURNER: Okay. You know, again, I'm going
15 to have to be a little wishy-washy on that one because
16 it could take five years, it could take 10 years, it
17 could take another 30 years.

18 AUDIENCE: Oh, no.

19 MR. TURNER: But the point of it is, is that the
20 more you remove, the less vapors there are, the less
21 problems around peoples' homes. It's not going to be a
22 quick deal. This isn't going to be a quick deal and
23 when you're talking about millions of gallons beneath
24 the town, it just isn't going to be quick.

25 AUDIENCE: (Inaudible)

1 MR. TURNER: Go up to a microphone, somebody.

2 MR. TURNER: I live with my sister on 1st
3 Street. It might not be a good question.

4 MR. TURNER: Okay. State and spell your name.

5 MR. TURNER: Donny Mark Turner, T-U-R-N-E-R.
6 How much is all this going to cost for what you guys
7 are doing and all these pumping stations? All this
8 testing, 10 years, what? I mean, how much is this
9 going to amount to? You people --

10 MR. TURNER: How much of --

11 AUDIENCE: (Inaudible)

12 MR. TURNER: What's your budget allowing you for
13 all this testing and all --

14 MR. TURNER: The oil companies are paying for
15 this. The oil companies are paying for our time as
16 well. So our -- we don't have a large budget because
17 the oil companies are paying for it. How much are the
18 oil companies going to pay? We don't know.

19 MR. TURNER: Ask them.

20 MR. TURNER: We don't know.

21 MR. TURNER: Well, million dollars?

22 MR. TURNER: Millions.

23 MR. TURNER: Millions? Well, how much do these
24 people -- you know, they may wait 30 years. You know,
25 you're going to spend all this money for this when you

1 can pay these people off and have it all done and over
2 with without --

3 AUDIENCE: (inaudible)

4 ** applause **

5 MS. UNRINGER: Kathy Unringer. (Audience
6 talking) I want to know to whom to address this. Two
7 weeks ago there was a public hearing on the equipment
8 that PREMCOR sold to Conoco- Phillips. And in your
9 investigation, if you find that any of that equipment
10 that has been bought by Conoco- Phillips is implicated
11 in causing the leak, causing the contamination, will
12 you withdraw the permit -- if they get the permit, will
13 you withdraw that from the permit and permanently
14 retire?

15 MR. CAHNOVSKY: I would probably say no because
16 the permit that is being issued is an air permit and
17 would not relate to a release from potentially sewer or
18 any of the lines that run between ConocoPhillips and --

19 MS. UNRINGER: But the air, the emissions, it's
20 (inaudible) from the tank. And if it's contaminated
21 from the bottom and it has emissions from the top, it
22 seems like they're tied together. It's the same piece
23 of equipment.

24 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Well, if the company continues
25 to violate a permit, then enforcement actions would be

1 taken. And it could be possible that the permit could
2 be revoked for (inaudible) violations.

3 MS. UNRINGER: Also you said, Chris, earlier,
4 that all of the companies were in compliance with the
5 permit. And I wondered as of when they came into
6 compliance because Conoco was not in compliance of the
7 most recent date in the -- on the EPA side.

8 MR. CAHNOVSKY: Well, ConocoPhillips does not
9 have a record parking permit. That permit is still to
10 Equilon. And Equilon is -- Shell is doing corrective
11 action under the permit for ConocoPhillips. And to my
12 knowledge, there are no violations currently for the
13 corrective action portion of the permit.

14 MS. UNRINGER: Okay. I will accept it because
15 the EPA said. I just want to make sure because that
16 doesn't reflect that, it reflects the (inaudible) the
17 facility not the company.

18 MR. TURNER: Well, we --

19 MS. UNRINGER: The facility, not the company.

20 MR. TURNER: Well, no. It would be, it may show
21 that with the facility, but as far as the record of
22 permit goes, since it's my office and my staff that are
23 responsible for the enforcement of that permit, there
24 are no violations of the current permit that has been
25 issued to Shell Oil Company.

1 MR. FILE: Ed File. I live on 4th Street in
2 Hartford. What these people are wanting to know is, I
3 believe, they are under the impression that -- that
4 they have been lied to so many times before. And I was
5 here earlier today and I talked to you and I know what
6 you're saying. You can't go back what they have done
7 over the 30 years but with this Order now is that the
8 oil companies are responsible, finally, to do something
9 about it.

10 But what they -- they understand it's going to
11 take years for this to be completed. But what they
12 want to know is what are you going to do for the
13 families now and who is going to pay for it. And just
14 like the person said, you know, this is a volunteer
15 fire department. And whoever these people that are
16 coming out, these people need to be paid. All these
17 people want to be -- you know, like they're all saying,
18 the taxes are going up and they can't sell their houses
19 in the meantime.

20 This is one of their main concerns. They know
21 it's going to take longer than a year -- which seems
22 awful long to me, but I do know that it takes time to
23 go over the study, but they want something done now
24 rather than just say, look, they're going to put these
25 wells in and test this and plan on making these oil

1 companies responsible, but they want to know about
2 their health effects, how they sell their houses, and,
3 like, normal people. And they are not getting any --
4 they're just getting, to me, like, well, this is what
5 we're going to do, but nothing has been said about what
6 they are wanting as far as having people with headaches
7 and all this type thing. And they are supposed to call
8 the fire department and, what, okay, the next day -- do
9 you understand what their point is? I mean, they want
10 -- they are wanting answers now rather than a year from
11 now. I mean, this is what they're talking about.

12 MR. WAHL: This is Dan. I have a couple more
13 questions. Has anybody done any checks on the south
14 end of town since there is a line between 5th and 6th
15 Street that is on the south end of the wells?

16 Another question I've got -- the closest
17 refinery, Clark owned. And for approximately eight
18 years, they didn't turn in any reports to you folks.
19 And I'm curious as to why nobody jumped their case to
20 see what was going on. Were the wells shut down or
21 what?

22 And my last question is -- and I hope this never
23 happens, but what if the refineries leave? We just had
24 one close down. Now they are going to reopen. If both
25 of the refineries close, where does that leave

1 Hartford? Is the government going to jump in and bail
2 us out? Is the government going to take care of us,
3 the situation we have? I mean, I've just got
4 questions, so many, that I can't say them all here
5 tonight.

6 MR. TURNER: Sir, you do have a lot of
7 questions. I would suggest after the meeting come up
8 and talk to me one on one. And I'll answer them as
9 best I can.

10 MR. WAHL: That's fine.

11 MR. TURNER: Yes, ma'am.

12 MS. LEWIS: My name is Gina Lewis. I live at
13 125 West Watkins. My concern is my parents have lived
14 in Hartford since 1960. They are in their 60s. And
15 you're saying something can happen a year from now, 10
16 years from now, 20 years from now, 30 years from now?
17 My parents have lived here their whole life. If
18 there's health effects to them, they might not be
19 around another year. You know what I'm trying to say?
20 They've lived here their whole life. Now they're going
21 to have to wait until you or whoever gets ready to do
22 what they want to do -- which my parents could be in
23 the ground by the time something is done. That's my
24 concern -- for the elderly in town.

25 MR. DILLON: My name is Robert Dillon. And I

1 live on 123 East Elm. And all these ventilating
2 systems you've got going up here, it's just a cover-up.
3 It's like a band-aid, putting it on a sore. Now, as
4 far as I -- the way you guys are thinking that this is
5 the only refinery around here in the United States.
6 I'm sure there's thousands and thousands of refineries
7 in the United States. And I'll bet you that there's
8 some of these refineries that have problems similar to
9 this. Why does it -- I'm sure -- why do you have to
10 redesign something? I'm sure there's something with
11 oil spills around rivers and things like this around.
12 Why is this a single shot for Hartford here? Why do
13 you want -- there's bound to be some -- I don't know
14 how many refineries. You know, I know this can't be
15 the only one in the United States that has this
16 problem. So why is it taking so long to do this?

17 ** applause **

18 MR. DILLON: -- been here for 30 some years.
19 And waiting all this time, there's bound to be somebody
20 doing this, you know, similar around the United States
21 elsewhere.

22 AUDIENCE: That's true.

23 MR. DOBINE: I'm Ron Dobine, D-O-B-I-N-E. I'm
24 the fire chief of Hartford. I don't have the solution
25 for everyone tonight and I know the EPA doesn't either.

1 But we are trying to work with the EPA and everyone
2 else. Hopefully, we can solve this problem.

3 I live at 105 West Cherry. I deal with the same
4 thing, so I'm not immune from it. And I wish we could
5 get it fixed. It used to be real bad at my house.
6 They put that ventilation system and withdrew a bunch
7 of the fumes out and it helped a lot. But it's still
8 not a cure. We need to get this stuff out of the
9 ground and hopefully make this ground safer.

10 We go on runs every day, gas fumes. I'm getting
11 calls all the time. You know, we haven't, luckily, had
12 a fire recently due to the gas. But we have had a lot
13 of fumes. And I encourage everyone to call the fire
14 department and we'll do the best we can.

15 We don't have sensitive enough equipment to test
16 for health problems, you know, that could be occurring
17 in the home. But we can check LES levels which would,
18 you know, your explosive level in your home. So, you
19 know, if we feel it's, you know, going to be an
20 explosive level, we can definitely evacuate you and get
21 you some help. Hartford Working Group, also, will put
22 you in up a hotel, whatever, whatever you need.

23 But I encourage everyone to call us. That's
24 about all I got. Thank you.

25 ** applause. **

1 MS. ANDRIA: Kathy Andria, again, still trying
2 to get money for that fire department. He said he
3 doesn't have enough equipment. I mean, that's
4 something that you could put into your consent decree.
5 They should have enough equipment for the health so
6 that the people call. If you want them to call, then
7 they should be able to go out and test. They should
8 have enough equipment.

9 ** applause **

10 MR. TURNER: Okay. Let's put this thing to a
11 close. Is that all right?

12 MR. JOYCE: Yes. Well, the microphones are
13 still open. Why don't we make the last call for
14 comments and then after those comments are in the
15 record, then we will break off into a more informal
16 thing where you can talk with those fellows one on one
17 and ask maybe specific questions that you don't want to
18 ask in front of a crowd but just privately.

19 So, any more folks for the microphones? I guess
20 not.

21 MS. LEWIS: Thank you for your time.

22 MR. JOYCE: Okay. Thank you for your time --
23 perfect cue.

24 (Whereupon comment portion was closed)
25

NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS.)

COUNTY OF MACOUPIN)

I, JEANINE A. FASSERO, do hereby certify that I am a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Illinois, Certified Court Reporter for the State of Missouri, and Notary Public within and for the County of Macoupin, State of Illinois, and that I reported in shorthand the proceedings had on the hearing of the above-entitled cause on March 25, 2004, and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 29th day of March, 2004.

My commission expires November 3, 2006.

(Notary Public)

